



January 17, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
U.S. Department of Justice
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

Microsoft is perhaps the most pioneering company in recent American history. Many people also are not aware of Microsoft's incredible philanthropic givings, some of the biggest donations in history. That is perhaps why I was saddened when the antitrust case was brought against Microsoft.

However, I was delighted to learn recently that a settlement was reached in this case. The settlement has many positive points, and will conclude the case at the federal level. This settlement will allow competitors unprecedented access to view Microsoft code so they can create better software. Additionally the settlement will allow Microsoft rivals to place software on Microsoft's systems without difficulty. Most significantly I believe the settlement will conclude this case at the federal level that has cost both sides and our economy too much in time, money, and effort.

It has become apparent that some wish this settlement withdrawn. I feel it is critical for you to support the settlement to make sure this does not occur and the federal case is settled.

I also wonder why the people behind this lawsuit lose sight of the fact that Bill Gates and numerous other Microsoft individuals support so many charities in this world. His foundations feed more people than the government does and he really cares about educating our young people and supporting schools. We have here a person who really cares about the world he and all of us live in. Give us all a break please.

Sincerely,

Donna Sorensen

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